

Assembly Bill No. 125–Assemblymen Backus;
Gorelow and Hafen

Joint Sponsors: Senators Buck and Krasner

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to public safety; requiring the tribal liaison for the Department of Public Safety to maintain ongoing communication relating to missing or murdered indigenous persons between the Department and certain entities; authorizing the Department to accept a report relating to certain persons missing from an Indian reservation or Indian colony located in whole or in part in this State; requiring certain law enforcement agencies to notify certain persons or agencies after receiving a report related to a missing indigenous person; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires each state agency that communicates with Indian tribes on a regular basis to designate a tribal liaison whose duties include maintaining ongoing communication between the state agency and affected Indian tribes. (NRS 233A.260) **Section 2** of this bill requires the tribal liaison for the Department of Public Safety to also maintain ongoing communication related to missing or murdered indigenous persons between the Department and: (1) Indian tribes and tribal communities in this State; (2) tribal organizations; (3) urban Indian organizations; (4) other tribal liaisons designated by state agencies; and (5) nongovernmental entities that provide services to women who are members of Indian tribes.

Existing law requires each sheriff, chief of police or other law enforcement agency which receives a report of a person missing under suspicious circumstances who is 18 years of age or older to enter the information concerning the missing person into the computer for the National Crime Information Center. (NRS 480.500) **Section 3** of this bill authorizes the Department to: (1) accept a report of a person who is 18 years of age or older and missing under certain circumstances from an Indian reservation or Indian colony that is located in whole or in any part of this State; and (2) enter the information concerning the missing person into the computer for the National Crime Information Center.

Section 3.5 of this bill requires each sheriff, chief of police or other law enforcement agency that receives a report that an indigenous person who is 18 years of age or older is missing from an Indian reservation or Indian colony that is located in whole or in part in this State to notify: (1) the Missing and Murdered Unit within the Office of Justice Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; (2) a person employed as a police officer by the Indian tribe having jurisdiction over the Indian reservation or Indian colony from which the person is missing; or (3) the tribal liaison for the Department.

Section 4.5 of this bill makes an appropriation to the Investigation Division of the Department for personnel, travel, operating, equipment and information services expenses to carry out the provisions of this bill.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 480 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 3.5 of this act.

Sec. 2. *In addition to the duties set forth in NRS 233A.260, the tribal liaison for the Department shall maintain ongoing communication relating to missing or murdered indigenous persons between the Department and:*

1. *Indian tribes and tribal communities in this State;*
2. *Tribal organizations;*
3. *Urban Indian organizations;*
4. *Other tribal liaisons designated by state agencies pursuant to NRS 233A.260; and*
5. *Nongovernmental entities that provide services to women who are members of Indian tribes.*

Sec. 3. *Notwithstanding any other provision of state or local law, the Department may:*

1. *Accept a report of a person who is 18 years of age or older and missing from an Indian reservation or Indian colony that is located in whole or in part in this State if the person who is reported missing:*

- (a) *Has a physical or mental disability;*
- (b) *Is missing after an emergency or natural disaster;*
- (c) *Is missing under:*

(1) *Circumstances that indicate he or she may be in danger or that his or her disappearance may not be voluntary; or*

(2) *Any other suspicious circumstance; and*

2. *Enter the information concerning the missing person into the National Crime Information Center pursuant to NRS 480.500.*

Sec. 3.5. *If a person reports to a sheriff, chief of police or other law enforcement agency that an indigenous person who is 18 years of age or older is missing from an Indian reservation or Indian colony that is located in whole or in part in this State, the sheriff, chief of police or other law enforcement agency, as applicable, shall notify:*

1. *The Missing and Murdered Unit within the Office of Justice Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs;*

2. *A person employed as a police officer by the Indian tribe having jurisdiction over the Indian reservation or Indian colony from which the person is missing; or*



3. *The tribal liaison designated by the Department pursuant to NRS 233A.260.*

Sec. 4. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4.5. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety for personnel, travel, operation, equipment and information services expenses to carry out the provisions of this act the following sums:

For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024	\$104,945
For the Fiscal Year 2024-2025	\$113,148

2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively.

Sec. 5. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.



